

REMARKS

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) from United States Application Serial No. 60/181,638, filed February 10, 2000.

Enclosed with this Preliminary Amendment is a marked-up version showing changes made to the claims by the present amendment; deletions are shown in brackets, while additions are underlined. The enclosed two pages are captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made".

Amendments to Specification

Upon review of the application file, applicant has discovered that Figure 1 referred to in the specification was inadvertently omitted from the set of documents submitted with this application and the priority application (Application Serial No. 60/181,638). However, applicant submits that the omitted drawing is unnecessary to the understanding of the invention.

35 U.S.C. § 113 states that "[t]he applicant shall furnish a drawing where necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented." The above-captioned application is directed to methods for treating allergic disorders, especially asthma, using agonists and antagonists of CCR8. Specifically, the claims are directed to: a method for treating asthma using CCR8 receptor antagonists, a method for screening for drugs useful for treating asthma using CCR8 as a target, and a knockout mouse lacking a CCR8 gene. Dependent claims are directed to antibodies and small molecule inhibitors. Based upon the above claimed subject matter, applicant submits that a drawing is not necessary to the understanding of the invention. Specifically, applicant submits that Figure 1 referenced on page 3 of the specification would not be needed to understand the claims or the disclosure because

the figure is directed to a targeting vector, the CCR8 genomic locus and the predicted recombined CCR8 locus.

Accordingly, the specification has been amended to delete the section entitled "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURE" from page 3, lines 21-23 of the specification. Likewise, the paragraphs on page 21, lines 26-35 and on page 22, lines 1-4 have been amended to delete the references to figures 1A and 1B, respectively.

CONCLUSION

If the undersigned can be of assistance to the Office in addressing issues to advance the application to examination, please contact the undersigned at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

In the Specification

The following section has been deleted from page 3, lines 21-23 of the specification:

[BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURE

Figure 1A is a schematic diagram of a CCR8 targeting vector. Figure 1B shows the CCR8 genomic locus. Figure 1C indicates the predicted recombined CCR8 locus.]

The paragraph on page 21, lines 26-35 has been replaced as follows:

A 1.2 kb Bgl II DNA fragment of the mCCR8 gene containing the 5' region of homology, and a 6.5 kb Bgl II-Hind III fragment containing the 3' region of homology were sequentially cloned into a targeting vector according to the method of Joyner, Gene Targeting; A Practical Approach (Oxford University Press 1993). This targeting vector was designed so that the entire coding sequences of the murine CCR8 gene would be replaced with the neomycin (*neo*) gene [(Fig. 1)]. This DNA was linearized with *Not* I restriction digestion and electroporated into embryonic stem (ES) cells. Neomycin-resistant ES cell clones were screened for homologous recombination by PCR with the following primers:

TY118 (5'-CACGCTGTTCCATTGCTCTGGAG-3') (SEQ ID NO: 1); and

TY70 (5'-GGGTTTGCTCGACATTGGGTGG-3') (SEQ ID NO: 2).

The paragraph on page 22, lines 1-4 has been replaced as follows:

Five positive clones were identified. Confirmation of the targeted ES cells was done by Southern blot analysis of Pst I digested genomic DNA hybridized to a 0.5 kb 5'- end probe, which detected 2.5 kb and 1.9 kb fragments corresponding to the wild type and mutant alleles, respectively [(Fig. 1B)].